

Located on southwest corner of State Capitol Grounds

This monument honors the Utah men who answered the call to protect the mail and telegraph lines along the continental route during the Civil War. April 25, 1862, Acting Governor of Utah Frank Fuller, called for volunteers from the Nauvoo Legion. The next day twenty-four men under Col. Robert T. Burton left for the assignment. Two days later Brigham Young received an authorization from President Abraham Lincoln through Secretary of War Stanton, for a company of cavalry to serve ninety days protecting the same route. (One hundred and six men responded for duty under Captain Lot Smith. Later some Utah men joined the 3rd Regiment, California Volunteers, stationed at Fort Douglas, October, 1862 - July, 1866. Other pioneers served in the Civil War before coming to Utah.

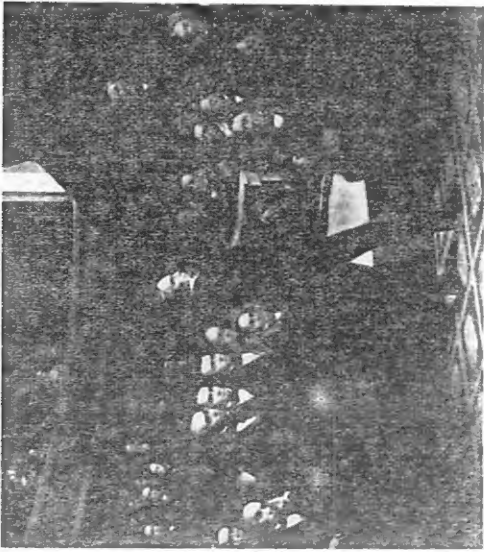
The Republican Party of 1860 named Abraham Lincoln of Illinois as their candidate, the first to run on a distinctly anti-slavery platform. The Southern States feared the enemies of slavery would leave no stone unturned to deprive them of their established institution, and, therefore, decided the time had come for them to take radical measures for the preservation of slavery. Immediately following Mr. Lincoln's election six States seceded from the Union. In February, 1861 a convention was held and the seceding States formed a new union called the Confederate States of America. On the morning of April 12, 1861, fire was opened by the Confederates on Fort Sumter.

Long before the first guns were fired both the North and the South recognized the importance of Utah, knowing that due to the position of the territory on the Overland Route, its people could destroy mail stations, stage connections, and even sever telegraph lines along the trail between the east and west. Acting Governor Frank Fuller of Utah and the men associated with the mail advised Secretary of War Stanton of the urgent need of a regiment of mounted men to police the continental route. A call came on April 23, 1862, when Governor Fuller officially called upon Daniel H. Wells of the Nauvoo Legion, asking for a contingent.

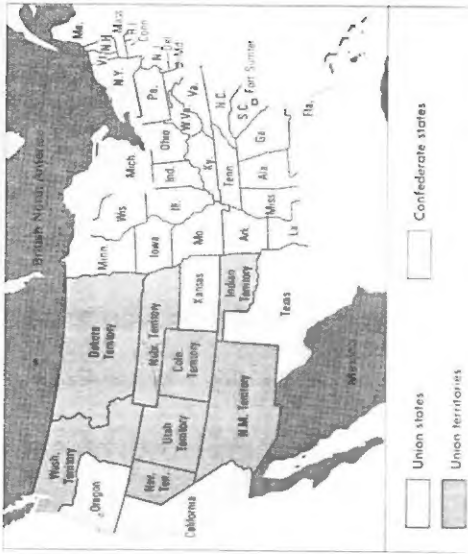
"It is represented that the stock of the Overland Mail Company along the east line of this city has been forcibly stolen, stations robbed, passengers attacked and mail destroyed."

Volunteers responded so quickly that the first expedition of twenty-four men was on its way by the next day with Col. Robert T. Burton commanding. Two days after Burton's mounted guard had gone into service, April 28, 1862, President Young received this message:

By express direction of the President of the United States, you are hereby authorized to raise, arm and equip one company of cavalry for ninety days' service. This company will be organized as follows: One captain; one first lieutenant; one second lieutenant; one first sergeant; one quartermaster sergeant; four sergeants and eight corporals; two musicians; two farriers; one saddler; one wagoner; and from fifty-six to seventy-two privates. The company will be employed to protect the property of the telegraph and Overland mail companies in or about Independence Rock, where depredations have been committed. . . .



The Old Print Shop, Inc., New York City
The Compromise of 1850 temporarily cooled the heated dispute over slavery between the North and South. Henry Clay, center above, led the effort in Congress to pass the Compromise.

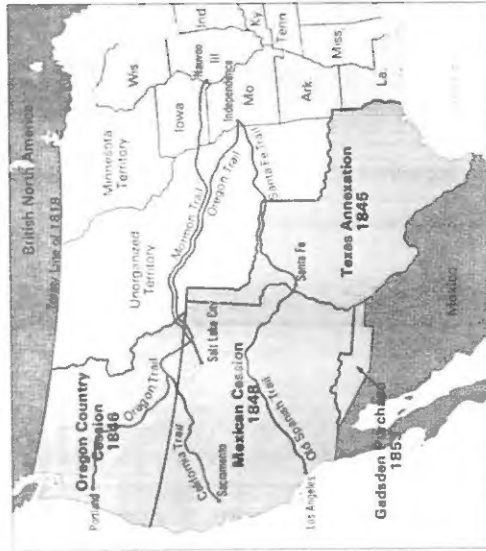


The Civil War (1861-1865) split the nation into two parts—the Confederacy and the Union. The Confederacy was made up of 11 Southern States that withdrew from the Union in 1860 and 1861.

III



A Pioneer Homestead in Missouri, above, consisted of a log cabin and a small piece of farmland. The farmer cleared timber from the surrounding forest to build his house and to burn as fuel.



Expansion in the Mid-1800's extended the nation westward to the Pacific Ocean. The Oregon Country was ceded to the U.S. by Britain. The rest of the new territory came from Mexico.

"IT WAS BACK IN '65"

